REMARKS

Claims 23, 44, 65 and 127 are amended. Claim 128 is new.

Support for "each of the at least five subcomponent option transactions specified in the order require the other subcomponent option transactions in the order to execute as specified, otherwise none of the at least five subcomponent option transactions will execute," and variations thereof; added to claims 23, 44, 65 and 127 may be found, for example, in original claim 49.

Support for the addition of the processor and memory as part of the computer system may be found, for example, in the specification at paragraph [0615], [0616] and Fig. 16.

Support for the recitations that the option transactions are associated with a specific market instrument be found, for example, in the specification at paragraph [0064].

Thus, no new matter is added with this amendment.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Several claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. These claims have been amended to remove the recitations corresponding to 'a specific type of option transaction' and 'the ordered versatile financial transaction being at a higher level than each of the subcomponent option transactions.' Accordingly, Applicant respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §101

Several claims are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 because they allegedly were not directed to statutory subject matter. Independent claims 23, 44 and 65 are amended so that the claimed method is more closely and unambiguously tied to a computer system. These claims now recite, for example:

> A method in a computer system of generating a versatile financial transaction, **the computer system including a processor and a memory coupled to the processor,**

using the computer system to provide a user a graphical user interface to select a versatile financial transaction...

receiving at the computer system an order from the user for the versatile financial transaction...

electronically processing via the computer system the order for the subcomponent option transactions;

transmitting via the computer system the interrelated subcomponents to a trade executing entity for fulfillment only when each of the five subcomponent option transactions will execute as specified; and

presenting the user, via the graphical user interface, with a confirmation of an execution of trades for each of the order's subcomponents.

Each of these limitations clearly ties the method to a machine. In other words, the claims are not directed to merely an abstract idea. According to the recent Supreme Court decision in *Bilski v. Kappos*, 561 U.S. ___(2010), claims that are so clearly tied to a machine are directed to patentable subject matter under 35 U.S.C. §101. Accordingly, those claims are now tied to a statutory class, and are patent eligible under 35 U.S.C. §101. Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Each of the currently pending independent claims recites something similar to: a versatile financial transaction that is related to an underlying instrument, and includes a plurality of interrelated, subcomponent, option transactions, wherein each of the interrelated, subcomponent, option transactions is also related to the same underlying instrument. Each the subcomponent option transactions specified in the order for the versatile financial transaction require the other subcomponent option transactions in the order to execute as specified, otherwise none of the subcomponent option transactions will execute. Thus, the versatile financial transaction is, in other words, a package or combination of interrelated multi-leg transactions which may be simply selected by a user and executed as a single versatile transaction, wherein the versatile financial transaction does not execute if trades for particular subcomponent option transactions are not able to execute. None of the prior art relied upon in the official action discloses such a versatile financial transaction.

1.   Claims 23 and 128

Amended claim 23 recites a method in a computer system of generating a versatile financial transaction, the computer system including a processor and a memory coupled to the processor, the method including using the computer system to provide a user a graphical user interface to select a versatile financial transaction from a plurality of possible versatile financial transactions; receiving at the computer system an order from the user for the versatile financial transaction, wherein the versatile financial transaction is related to an underlying instrument; wherein the versatile financial transaction is comprised of at least five subcomponent option transactions, wherein each of the at least five subcomponent option transactions is related to the underlying instrument; electronically processing via the computer system the order for the subcomponent option transactions; wherein the subcomponent option transactions are interrelated; wherein subcomponent parameters specified in the order are based on ordering requirements made for the versatile financial transaction; wherein each the at least five subcomponent option transactions specified in the order require the other subcomponent option transactions in the order to execute as specified, otherwise none of the at least five subcomponent option transactions will execute; transmitting via the computer system the interrelated subcomponents to a trade executing entity for fulfillment only when each of the five subcomponent option transactions will execute as specified; and presenting the user, via the graphical user interface, with a confirmation of an execution of trades for each of the order's subcomponents.

In particular, amended claim 23 recites a versatile financial transaction wherein each of at least five subcomponent option transactions specified in an order require the other subcomponent option transactions in the order to execute as specified, otherwise none of the at least five subcomponent option transactions will execute. This limitations distinguish the references relied on in the official action.

With respect to amended claim 23, neither Nordlicht nor Himmelstein provide any disclosure of a versatile financial transaction wherein each the at least five subcomponent option transactions specified in the order require the other subcomponent option transactions in the order to execute as specified, otherwise none of the at least five subcomponent option transactions will execute. While the Office Action cites to column 8, lines 10-60; column 18,

line 48 – column 23, line 5; and Figures 3, and 7A-7E of Himmelstein as disclosing this feature, Applicants can find no such disclosure in these sections, as well as the rest of Himmelstein. It appears as though the barter transactions disclosed in Himmelstein will trade individually, and are not interdependent on another trade. The method recited in amended claim 23 is thus superior to Nordlicht and Himmelstein because it prevents a trader from possible exposure to a situation where some of the expected trades are not filled. Such a situation could expose the trader to unwanted risk.

Furthermore, Nordlicht does not appear to disclose this claim limitation missing from Himmelstein. Applicant thus respectfully submits that amended claim 23 is in condition for allowance for at least this reason.

It is alleged on page 8 of the Office action that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to combine the references because "Himmelstein incorporating the security stock into a Himmelstein Option that is bartered removes uncertainty (i.e. future risk). This is beneficial in many instances. For example, successful, educated investors desiring to decrease their stock portfolio can recognize this benefit and utilize the Himmelstein Option to reduce their stock portfolio in a controlled manner." However, this explanation seems to lack clarity and cogency, and Applicant respectfully requests, if the rejection is maintained, that a more detailed reason be provided in the next action so that Applicant can respond to a better articulated reason for the proposed combination.

2. Claims 44, 53, and 55

Amended independent claim 44 is directed to a method in a computer system of generating a versatile financial transaction including identifying an underlying financial instrument; identifying a versatile financial transaction for the underlying financial instrument, wherein the versatile financial transaction includes at least three subcomponent option transactions; using the computer system to provide an order for processing the subcomponent option transactions; wherein the subcomponent option transactions are interrelated, wherein subcomponent parameters specified in the order are based on ordering requirements made in identifying the versatile financial transaction; wherein at least one of

the subcomponents specified in the order require other subcomponents in the order to execute as specified, otherwise none of the subcomponents will execute; transmitting via the computer system the interrelated subcomponents to a trade executing entity for fulfillment, generating via the computer system a confirmation of an execution of a trade on the versatile financial transaction.

Similar to claim 23, amended claim 44 specifically recites a versatile financial transaction where at least one of the subcomponents specified in an order for the a versatile financial transaction require other subcomponents in the order to execute as specified, otherwise none of the subcomponents will execute.

As discussed above with respect to claim 23, neither of the applied patents disclose such a versatile financial transaction. It is thus respectfully submitted that amended claim 44, and claims 53, and 55 dependent thereon, are in condition for immediate allowance.

3. Claims 65, 66, 68, 69, 74, 76-79, and 81

Independent claim 65 recites a method in a computer system of generating a versatile financial transaction, the computer system including a processor and a memory coupled to the processor, the method including receiving at the computer system an order for the versatile financial transaction for an underlying financial instrument, wherein the versatile financial transaction includes at least three subcomponent option transactions; processing the order for the subcomponent option transactions; wherein the subcomponent transactions are interrelated, wherein each of the at least three subcomponent option transactions is related to the underlying financial instrument; wherein at least one of the subcomponent option transactions specified in the order require other subcomponent option transactions in the order to execute as specified, otherwise both sets of subcomponent option transactions will not execute; and wherein each of the at least three subcomponent option transactions is associated with a specific market instrument; using the computer system to effect the execution of trades on the order's subcomponents.

These limitations recited above are similar to limitations found in claims 23 and 44. Claim 65, and claims 66, 68, 69, 74, 76-79, and 81 dependent thereon, are thus allowable for the reasons discussed above.

4.   Claim 127

New independent claim 127 recites a memory storage containing instructions configured to be executed by a processor, the instructions which, when executed by the processor, cause the performance of a method that includes displaying a plurality of versatile financial transactions for selection by a user; facilitating a user in selecting a specific versatile financial transaction from the plurality of versatile financial transactions, wherein the selected versatile financial transaction is related to either a stock or a future; wherein the selected versatile financial transaction includes three or more interrelated, subcomponent, option transactions, wherein each of the three or more subcomponent option transactions is related to either the stock or the future; wherein each the three or more interrelated, subcomponent option transactions specified in the order require the other subcomponent option transactions in the order to execute as specified, otherwise none of the three or more interrelated, subcomponent option transactions will execute; transmitting the interrelated subcomponents to a trade executing entity for fulfillment; and displaying to the user a confirmation of an execution of a trade for the selected versatile financial transaction.

These limitations recited above are similar to limitations found in claims 23, 44 and 65. Claim 127 is thus allowable for the reasons discussed above.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the above application is in condition for allowance, and reconsideration is respectfully requested. If there is any matter that the Examiner would like to discuss, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number set forth below. In any event, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 31578/44898.

Dated: July 6, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

By _____
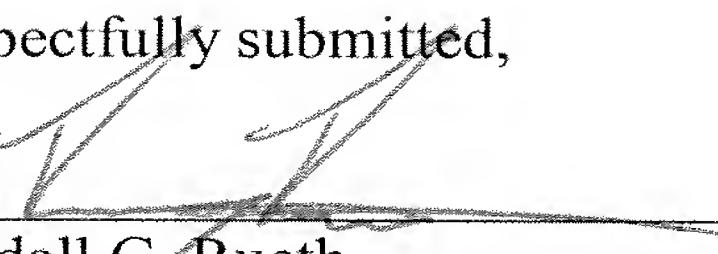
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